



HR1466

LRB099 23832 GRL 51352 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Plainfield Township Park
4 District on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its
5 founding in 2016; and

6 WHEREAS, On October 22, 1966, the citizens of Plainfield
7 Township authorized the establishment of the Plainfield
8 Township Park District; Robert Anderson, Frederick Hagerman,
9 Duane Maas, Charles Stansberry, Jr., and Joseph Rutten served
10 as the first Board of Commissioners; and

11 WHEREAS, In November of 1967, the Plainfield Township Park
12 District entered into an agreement to purchase a portion of
13 Section 11 in Plainfield Township for a public park entity; the
14 site, purchased from the Plainfield Township government for
15 \$20,000, became the first property owned by the District; the
16 property is now Four Seasons Park at Lockport Street and
17 Interstate 55; and

18 WHEREAS, In March of 1968, the Plainfield Township Park
19 District Board of Commissioners began discussions with the
20 Village of Plainfield about taking over the village parks;
21 within a single month, the Board and the Village reached an
22 agreement for the District to assume management of the Village

1 Green, Boy Scout/Ottawa Street, the Marybrook/Kelly
2 properties, the Ottawa Street baseball diamond, the Memorial
3 Triangle, and the McLaughlin Trust property; and

4 WHEREAS, Within just two years, the Plainfield Township
5 Park District grew from an idea into an organization managing
6 seven park properties; and

7 WHEREAS, The Plainfield Township Park District has had five
8 full-time Executive Directors, Ed DeMarco (1977-1983), Jon
9 Foens (1983-1985), Greg Bott (1985-2013), Garrett Peck
10 (2013-2014), and the current Executive Director, Carlo
11 Capalbo; and

12 WHEREAS, Thirty-nine dedicated community members have
13 served on the Plainfield Township Park District Board of
14 Commissioners; their commitment and vision has guided the
15 District from its inception through a period of tremendous
16 growth during the mid-1990s and its continued plans for future
17 expansion; and

18 WHEREAS, Fiduciary responsibility to the residents has
19 always been a priority of Plainfield Township Park District
20 administration; the District has a AA bond rating from Standard
21 and Poor's and has received Certificates of Achievement for
22 Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance

1 Officers Association of the United States and Canada since
2 2006; the District has also been awarded over \$8 million in
3 grant funding to aid in the development of parks and trails and
4 to fund various programs and park improvements; and

5 WHEREAS, The Plainfield Township Park District has
6 expanded its boundaries and now encompasses more than 43 square
7 miles; the District serves more than 100,000 people and manages
8 91 parks on approximately 1,300 acres; the recreational
9 facilities and amenities owned and operated by the District
10 include 65 playgrounds, two skate parks, three dog parks, 17
11 basketball courts, many pathways and bike trails, and numerous
12 sports fields for baseball, football, soccer, and softball, as
13 well as the Recreation Administration Center, the Recreation
14 Administration Center Annex, the Normantown Equestrian Center,
15 the Ottawa Street Pool, and the Streams Recreation Center; the
16 Park District also leases the Heritage Professional Center and
17 manages the Plainfield Township Community Center through an
18 intergovernmental agreement with Plainfield Township; and

19 WHEREAS, A time capsule was dedicated and placed in the
20 ground on October 22, 2016 under a commemorative stone at the
21 entrance sign of Gregory B. Bott Community Park; the capsule
22 will be opened in 2066 during the Plainfield Township Park
23 District's 100th Anniversary; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
3 recognize the Plainfield Township Park District on the occasion
4 of its 50th anniversary, its expansion in service to its
5 communities, and its promising approach towards the next 50
6 years; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the Plainfield Township Park District as a symbol
9 of our esteem and respect.